DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Memorandum of Conversation*

~~SECRET~~ TELEPHONE

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: June 29, 1954

SUBJECT:

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador John E. Peurifoy, Guatemala
Assistant Secretary Holland

COPIES TO: The Secretary
General Smith
Mr. Murphy

714.00/6-2954

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At about 11 A.M. on Tuesday, June 29, I telephoned Ambassador Peurifoy.

I stated that the Inter-American Peace Commission was determined to come on to Guatemala; that I had persuaded them not to go until the Guatemalan Government confirmed its invitation to them to do so; that they were communicating with the Government through Chocano, the Charge d'Affaires of the Arbenz Government here; that I was afraid that Chocano would falsely report that the Government wanted the Commission to come. I suggested that he cause the Junta to cable Luis Quintanilla and Hector David Castro, head of the Peace Commission and President of the COAS, respectively, stating that they were anxious that the Peace Commission come, but that they would like its trip postponed until current steps to end the fighting were completed. I suggested further that the Junta state that its Ambassador in Washington was Francisco Anguiano, the First Secretary of the Guatemalan Embassy here, who denounced the Arbenz Government yesterday, and that Chocano had no authority from them at all. Ambassador Peurifoy said that he would dispatch Mr. Krieg immediately to try to get such cables sent.

Enlarging on the facts which he had given me earlier on the phone, he said that it was the proposal of the Junta that only Colonel Monzon would go to the contemplated meeting in El Salvador; that the other two members of the Junta would remain in Guatemala to preserve order. He said that he personally had been requested by both the old and the new Junta to accompany Monzon together with the Salvadoran Ambassador in Guatemala.

I told

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I told Ambassador Peurifoy that I thought it would produce very adverse publicity if he were to accompany the delegation, although I would approve his lending them the Embassy plane. I suggested that instead of going himself he arrange for the Salvadoran Ambassador to go and that the Papal Nuncio also accompany the group. We agreed that we would reach a decision on this when I talk to him later in the day by phone.

I confirmed that we [illegible] making every effort to get word to the rebel leader urging that he fix an hour this afternoon when ground hostilities can be suspended and that he agree to attend a conference in El Salvador.

ARA:HFHolland:vk



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